## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of increasing utilization of user link bandwidth for a code division multiple access

5 communications system is disclosed that includes the steps of selecting a set of orthogonal complex codes each having a code length that is greater than a code length of an optimum real code and less than or equal to a spreading code length; and transferring symbols across at least one

10 of a plurality of user links to or from at least one of a corresponding plurality of user terminals wherein the symbols are represented by a corresponding one of the set of orthogonal complex codes.